Scope for increasing production and Export of Garment

3607. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope to increase the production and export of garment in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during last three years;

(c) whether Government have adopted any new strategy to increase the production and export of garment during Ninth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Besides, various incentives like duty drawback concessional rate of duty for import of machineries under EPCG Scheme, allowing import of restricted items under the Advance Licence Scheme of the Export-Import Policy, duty free import of essential items of trimmings & embellishments like fastners, polywadding, labels, tags, buttons, hangers, stickers, poly bags and lining and interlining materials, full/partial exemption under 80HHC of Income Tax has also been allowed w.e.f. 1.4.1999.

The Government has adopted several strategies to increase the production and export of garment during remaining part of Ninth Plan. Some of the important steps taken are as under:—

(1) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of ready-made garment from the SSI sector.

(2) A conference of State Ministers and Secretaries in charges of States was held on 10.4.2001 to emphasise partnership of the State in overall production and development of garments.

(3) A sum of Rs. 10 crores has been earmarked in the Budget

2001-02 for creating clusters of excellence, i.e., apparel parks for production and export of garments.

(4) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of this sector so that it can become more competitive in international trade. Inter Ministerial Committee to resolve the issues pertaining to assistance under TUFS has been constituted.

(5) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

(6) The import of a large number of garment machinery has been allowed under concessional custom duty of 5%.

(7) With a view to encouraging backward integration the custom duty on shuttleless looms has been brought to 5%.

Setting up of Integrated Apparel Parks

3608. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the scheme for setting up Integrated Apparel Parks under the New Textile Policy;

(b) whether there is a plan for setting up the said Integrated Apparel Parks in the States of North-East Region; and

(c) if so, the amount sanctioned and to which State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) to (c) One of the features of National Textile Policy—2000 is to encourage the private sector to set up world class environment friendly, integrated textile complexes and textile processing units in different parts of the country. Accordingly the details of a scheme for setting up of Apparel Parks are being finalised. A sum of Rs. 10 crores has also